

From: Andrew Coupe
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/15/02 1:57pm
Subject: Letter of comment on the Microsoft Litigation

The attached document contains the letter.

Andrew Coupe

14 Middlebridge Court
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906

January 13, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing you today to express my opinion in regards to the Microsoft settlement issue. I am a Microsoft supporter and have been active in informing my state government of Maryland on my views. I feel this issue has drawn on long enough, and I was relieved to hear that Maryland had settled and dropped its lawsuit against Microsoft. I am extremely anxious to see this dispute resolved at the federal level.

Microsoft is a company that has done much to impact our society. Because of Microsoft, we reap the benefits of computer technology in our daily lives. This settlement will end three years of litigation and will allow Microsoft to continue focusing its energy on innovative design. This settlement was reached after extensive negotiations and is complete. Microsoft will now agree to share sensitive information about Windows with its competitors.

I find it particularly disturbing that the remaining states in the lawsuit are all homes to Microsoft competitors. It is my understanding, that the Tunney act was designed to protect consumers not corporations. It appears that Oracle, Novell, Sun Microsystems, and others are using state legislators to further their own agenda under the guise of "protecting consumers". It is ironic that state legislators are pursuing Microsoft for overcharging consumers while Sun and IBM continue to sell competing products at significantly higher prices.

During these difficult economic times, it would serve in the best public interest to stop wasting precious resources on litigation against Microsoft and allow this company to get back to business. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Andrew Coupe

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